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# ART TRADES SUPPLEMENT.

## ADORN YOUR HOME.

ANY effort that will place within the reach of people of moderate means the art effects of costly art products is a noble one, and worthy of the highest encouragement. In the adornment of the home this is particularly so, for it is through the medium of the home that the coming generations can be taught to admire what is best in form and color.

Decoration by means of pictorial glass windows is very costly. Churches, and the dwellings of people of wealth, have hitherto enjoyed a monopoly of glass painting, which has employed the best energies of artists, architects and decorators, producing work of incomparable beauty. This most important branch of the glazier's art is too costly for the possession of people who are forced to be economic in their expenditures, but Messrs. Grimme & Hempel, of Leipzig, have produced an economic decorative material known as Diaphania, which reproduces the touch, sparkle, color and beauty of the more costly painted glass. All the magnificent effects of glass painting are placed within the reach of people of moderate means by means of this beautiful product.

Diaphania is not only a reproduction of stained glass, but, beyond this, it is in particular a reproduc-

tion of Germany, scripture scenes, birds, fruits and flowers, form a collection of designs of rare beauty. There are over two hundred pictures already produced, which have elicited the highest praise from the best artists and which create a veritable enthusiasm,

nickel frames, with or without the accompaniment of borders of Diaphania, cathedral glass, or bull's-eyes to fill all or any section of a window. Fire screens can be decorated by Diaphania, and two beautiful Japanese panels, brilliant in color, would form admirable subjects for this kind of work. The material is not affected by heat or moisture, the refreshing beauty and clearness of the tints being as durable as the material itself.

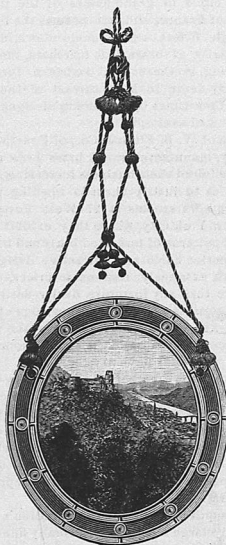
We give several illustrations of Diaphania in the form of hanging pictures and window decorations. No. 912 is a hanging picture for window decoration, the subject representing Cupids. The panel is mounted on a diamond shaped nickel frame with



HANGING PICTURE IN DIAPHANIA.

tion of costly glass painting, wherein the most brilliant figure subjects, choice landscapes, etc., are executed by artists as great as those who paint upon glass itself. As the name implies, it is a art film containing a translucent picture light passing freely through it. The film is put between two panes of glass to insure its perfect preservation, and its delicate and brilliant effect is enhanced with borders of cathedral glass, which give a finish to the particular picture or panel employed. Here then we have the beauty, the perfect color effects of mediæval and modern glass painting in a decorative material costing very much less than the former. The softness and brilliancy of its colors and its durability has already given Diaphania a world-wide reputation. All varieties of subject are reproduced with equal splendor of effect. There are decorated windows in which the figure panel is reinforced by a stilling or filling of Diaphania to complete the area or field of the larger panel, the whole being surrounded by a brilliant border.

Genre pictures, subjects in which childhood predominates, festive scenes, magnificent landscapes, reproductions of old masters, allegorical figures, representations of courtly life in France, Italy and



HANGING PICTURE IN DIAPHANIA.—HEIDELBERG.

wherever shown, for this delightful method of decoration. Nothing more brilliant or captivating in decoration has ever been offered the public for so small an outlay, and the idea thus perfected is one of the most brilliant discoveries of the age.



ITALIAN SCENE IN DIAPHANIA.

As an adjunct to modern domestic architecture, Diaphania has an unlimited field in providing a source of perennial beauty. The pictures vary in size, and they can be had mounted, being made in



CHURCH WINDOW IN DIAPHANIA. SUBJECT: RAPHAEL'S SISTINE MADONNA.

fancy cords, and measures 18 x 18 inches. No. 1452 is a hanging picture with a landscape of Heidelberg, having an oval border in cathedral glass, the whole being suspended by fancy cords. The size of the panel is 16 1-2 x 18 1-2 inches. No. 1359 presents a scene in an Italian garden, surrounded with a border of bull's eyes in cathedral glass. It is 20 1-2 x 25 inches in size. No. 1390 is a church window with panel picture of Raphael's Sistine Madonna. The illustration is one-tenth the size of the picture, the window itself being 19 1-4 inches wide by 51 1-4 inches in height. In addition to window decorations, Diaphania is suitable for the decoration of

door panels, skylights and screens of all kinds. The material is also produced in small panels, set in nickel frames, and no one can see these beautiful decorations without being delighted with their artistic beauty.

The New York agency of the firm is located at 310 Broadway. Their art productions can be had at all first-class art stores, and in the picture departments of first-class dry goods houses throughout the country. They publish an illustrated catalogue containing about 600 illustrations, which will be mailed on receipt of twenty-five cents. Their colored catalogue will be mailed free on receipt of one dollar, which will be refunded in the event of a ten dollar order being sent them.

## M. F. & F. E. SCHRENKEISEN.

IT is pleasing to note the decidedly fresh conceptions in parlor, hall and library furniture produced season after season by Messrs. M. F. & F. E. Schrenkeisen. In variety their work is truly cosmopolitan, while the adaptation of their immense line of goods to the American trade is in itself the beginning of a new style, which will possibly be hereafter recognized as the Occidental.

They have produced for the spring season no less than twenty-six new suites, covering every possible method of construction known in the manufacture of parlor furniture. There is an extra output of overstuffed work of the highest grade, some of the pieces combining a display of gilt framework with the most *recherche* of silk brocade tapestries. A delightful little English study suite is a conscientious return to the simple lines of the Old English Elizabethan or Dutch Renaissance furniture, upholstered in leather. This particular suite is upholstered in antique tapestry, its rectangular outlines being trimmed with large-headed brass nails.

Four piece suites, consisting of divan, two easy chairs and side chair, in striped brocade, trimmed with a soft roping of brocade, would, in itself, render attractive the most formal drawing-room. A three piece suite in plain, simple lines, relieved with a silken ruffle around the extreme edge, is at once the acme of simplicity and good taste. A suite fashioned somewhat on Empire lines, but including carved Renaissance details, is extremely stylish. The pieces are characterized by a long deep seat, and the attenuated sweep of the arms, in both the settee and easy chair, lending the pieces great style and dignity.

To describe the various overstuffed Turkish suites, upholstered in the daintiest of silk brocade, would require a very extensive use of language. It is sufficient to say that the various new pieces manufactured by the firm are masterpieces of the upholsterer's art, furnishing the overworked and worried man of the age physical deliciousness and mental repose. A magnificent conception in an overstuffed suite with a strip of frame in serpentine lines of burnished gold, is appropriately denominated the Royal suite. The back and arms are a mass of minute tufting, the covering being in delicate rose brocade. Another overstuffed suite is of ultra-luxurious proportions, upholstered with a French brocade of an elaborate set figure, the top of the various pieces being crowned with a cresting of carved work in burnished gold.

So great is the reputation of the firm for their burnished gold finish, that an English firm has ordered a dozen throne-shaped chairs for an Indian Rajah, the design of the chairs being a combination of the Roman chair with a French Renaissance arm-chair, in harmony with the ancient idea of having the thrones of royal personages take the form of folding chairs. These chairs are richly carved and highly burnished, a portion of the arms being inlaid with a delightful design in mother-of-pearl.

In their line of library furniture we observe a new creation, which they term their London library suite. It consists of a Chesterfield divan intended to fit an embrasure in the wall, with accompanying easy chairs with overstuffed upholstery. For solid and genuine comfort the suite cannot be surpassed.

Their suites are in various leathers, and there is a new line of library tables made in polished quartered oak. There is also a new line of hall chairs, ladies' desks and dressing tables, small divans, odd chairs, piano stools, taborettes, etc. The effect of these magnificent goods when seen arranged for exhibition in their warerooms, located at 49 and 51 Elizabeth street, New York City, is amply sufficient to capture the fancy of buyers for the spring trade.

## W. B. FITCH & CO.

NOTWITHSTANDING the extraordinary luxury of household furnishings developed in France toward the latter end of the eighteenth century, the fact must be admitted that Marie Antoinette, and the entire circle of grand dames of the upper ten thousand of France, did not possess the luxury of a brass bed. These are of modern origin, and as the popularity of brass beds increases, the various firms dealing in these ideal bedroom furnishings strain every nerve to keep abreast of the artistic impulse of our times by producing designs that are elegant as well as simple.

The firm of W. B. Fitch & Co., of Fourth avenue, New York, manufacturers of brass beds and bedding, have found their business increasing to such an extent as to justify them in opening new and magnificent warerooms at 27 West Forty-second street, New York City, where they exhibit a large variety of patterns of imported brass and iron beds, whose superior finish and attractive design, combined with extremely reasonable prices, make it imperative that any furniture dealer desiring not merely to possess a thorough knowledge of what is on the market, but is also solicitous of the wants of his customer, should visit their warerooms and investigate what they have to offer.

They exhibit a number of model bedrooms furnished with brass beds, many of which have canopies, the other appurtenances of the apartment consisting of cream or white enameled toilet tables, dressing tables, chairs, ottomans, etc., each separate apartment being enclosed with hangings and draperies of French tapestry, reproducing Oriental designs.

There is quite a large line of children's cribs in brass, and a large number of unusually fine designs in brass beds exhibited upon the ground floor of their warehouse, testifying to the fine taste and excellent judgment of the firm. The firm is one that has been long and honorably identified with the metal bedstead business, and at the present time they offer the trade important advantages in the quality and price of their productions. They exhibit a number of bedroom divans upholstered in corduroy, and their shoe boxes, made to extend along the footboard of the bed, are beautifully upholstered, and form a very useful receptacle for shoes and other bedroom impedimenta.

## M. & H. SCHRENKEISEN.

IN the manufacture of parlor specialties, it has always been the aim of this company to bring about a desirable union of utility and beauty, and it is but just to state that their new line for the spring season's trade is characterized by elegance and variety of design, skill of workmanship, and great durability of construction. There are new gilt burnished three piece suites, tables, pedestals, conversation chairs, centre ottomans, cabinets, etc., which are characterized by all the refined elegance hitherto characteristic of the goods manufactured by the firm. In their spacious and richly equipped warerooms, located at the corner of Canal and Elizabeth streets, there is a most imposing display of these goods.

Their line of overstuffed goods is as varied as in former seasons, and in the frame suites there are inlaid Sheraton and Chippendale productions, comprising in all over thirty new designs, proving that the firm are accomplished masters of their art in the production of fashionable, salable and economic furnishings. This house draws its patronage

from the best trade in the country, and amongst their other productions should be specially noted their inlaid occasional tables in prima vera and mahogany, which are enriched with marquetry, in which such materials as German silver, mother-of-pearl and brass are artistically incorporated. There are over one hundred designs in such tables, in which every conceivable style in which the parlor table can be manufactured is represented.

Half a dozen new inlaid mahogany cabinets of dainty design are shown side by side with a row of burnished gold pedestals, both of which specialties have secured a firm hold in popular favor.

They also exhibit a fitted up cozy corner, as an example of the species of decoration that comes within range of the possibilities of the firm, in which there is a divan upholstered in rose colored silk brocade, on which are thrown an array of cushions covered with choicest fabrics that the world produces. The walls are draped also in rose colored tapestry, and overhead is a canopy construction having a shelf decorated in carved and burnished gold.

In their line of library goods there is offered a dozen Turkish overstuffed suites in leather and tapestry. Side by side with these are found inlaid mahogany tables, couches, hall racks, and oak and china closets. A novelty in overstuffed suites consists of a divan and two easy chairs fitted with loose cushions, which makes it one of the most original suites in the market.

Associated with the productions of the firm are the brilliant productions of the New York Cabinet Company, whose specialties in decorative art furniture are reinforced for the coming season with a large number of new designs. There are new and *recherche* suites in the Empire, Louis XV. and Louis XVI. styles. There are several odd pieces and tables, piano stools, and a magnificent reception suite consisting of divan and armchairs upholstered in the Empire style, and harmonizing therewith are Empire tables in mahogany with gilt brass mountings. Their Louis XVI. suites are reinforced with a magnificent line of Rococo tables in Mexican oax and gold. There are also odd divans, reception chairs and screens, brilliantly carved and gilt and enriched with the finest of textile materials.

In fact a visit of inspection is needed to appreciate the artistic effects attained by the productions of this firm. There are console cabinets, music cabinets and tables decorated in Vernis Martin style, and gilt odd chairs with panels in the back decorated with paintings of cupids and flowers. A music cabinet has a painting of gay shepherdesses in the Watteau style, and similar decorations are bestowed upon work tables, glove and jewel stands. There are five new cabinets with mirror backs and bottoms, the shelves being daintily covered with silk plush. The splendid collection of goods displayed is not only unique, but includes the most brilliant and artistic decorative goods in its line in the city.

## THE WHITCOMB METALLIC BEDSTEAD COMPANY.

THESE manufacturers supply the trade with an extremely popular line of brass and iron bedsteads. They have spared neither time nor expense in creating a choice variety of their goods, which are diversified by iron cribs, bedsteads for hospitals and public institutions, all of which possess the great merits of durability, cleanliness and brightness.

Their regular brass beds are made with round, square and hexagon twisted pillars, and their brass adjustable half-testers and swing curtain brackets are made to fit any width of bedstead.

They also manufacture woven wire mattresses, having a patent adjustment for connection with the frame of the bed.

Many of the designs are extremely artistic, and would add a splendor to any apartment, however otherwise richly furnished. Their pioneer works at Birmingham, Conn., are kept busily employed in executing orders from all parts of the country.

The New York warerooms are located in Union Square, north. They issue a handsome catalogue of designs of their bedsteads and mattresses, in which each particular design is indicated by a specific word, indicating a certain style and size of bed, which is found very useful in correspondence.

## C. H. MEDICUS & CO.

THIS well-known firm have notified the furniture trade that they always endeavor to avail themselves of good advice, and when their customers suggest what style of design, grade and character of goods are likely to be in touch with the prevailing demand, they generally weigh this suggestion, and produce, as far as possible, articles which will please the popular fancy. They have had many an interview with their patrons relative to the coming season, and the result is an exceedingly good assortment of furniture. Their goods are now on exhibition at the present semi-annual gathering of progressive furniture makers in the Industrial Building in this city. Their styles are not copies, but are the outcome of careful thought, earnest effort, and a desire on their part to manufacture for the trade at large absolutely first-class work at a minimum price for such goods.

On another page we illustrate a three piece suite shown by the firm which for delicacy of design and richness of finish, would be hard to duplicate anywhere. Many suites are similarly charming, exhibiting richly carved gilt work in combination with overstuffed upholstery, fashioned after the Empire and Louis XV. styles, are marvels of beauty. The firm make a specialty of parlor suites in solid mahogany after the Louis XIV., Louis XV., Louis XVI., Rococo, Empire, Chippendale and Sheraton styles, and there is also a large line of odd pieces, easy chairs, corner chairs, divans, reception chairs, inlaid and solid mahogany tables, all the product of one of the most important furniture manufacturing plants in the country.

Some new dining chairs, upholstered in tan and olive ooze leather, are remarkable for their effectiveness and solidity. There are Turkish chairs in olive and corduroy upholstery, and the ever popular Morris chair, with or without pillow attachment in the way of headrests.

Mr. C. H. Medicus, of the firm, brings to bear a wide range of practical experience, and is a recognized authority on all matters pertaining to the furniture market. The intimate and influential relations existing between this firm and the trade at large enables them to produce their specialties under the most favorable conditions.

## C. E. CUMMINGS & CO.

THE specialties in the line of fancy cabinet ware produced by this well-known firm include many excellent novelties for the spring trade. There is a ten foot extension table with a well underneath the leaf, where the unused sections of the table can be placed for safety and immediate availability—a most convenient idea.

In the library tables, music racks, chiffoniers, shaving stands, desks and toilet tables, design, workmanship and finish have combined to produce for the firm a large and steadily increasing demand for their specialties throughout the United States, and the productions of the firm are recognized as standards throughout the trade.

## S. P. PORTER.

MR. PORTER is exhibiting some of the greatest values in sideboards and chiffoniers ever offered to the trade, which are produced by the Indian Furniture Manufacturing Company, of Coudersville, Ind. He is also showing a line of cheap and medium priced chiffoniers, extension tables and ladies desks, made by the Harrisburg Manufacturing Company, of Harrisburg, Pa. In the line of beds, his exhibit is reinforced by a large

number of pleasing designs manufactured by Emrich, Paulini & Co., and there are chamber suites by the Hall & Lyon Furniture Company. The main court of the exhibit is entirely filled with the magnificent tables and chairs of the Tidouste Chair Company.

Mr. Porter exhibits the greatest care in the selection of selling lines of goods, and offers the trade a selection of furnishings that cannot be excelled in quality, reliability and excellence. Being possessed of a patronage of great and gratifying proportions, his success is the best possible proof of the superiority of his goods, and of the honorable and straightforward methods that characterize his dealings.

## THE WILLIAMSPORT (PA.) FURNITURE CO.

AN unusually attractive line of their superior chamber suites, sideboards, chiffoniers and toilet tables, produced in bird's eye maple, curly birch and solid mahogany, by the above firm, is one of the features of the present exhibition. The firm is a leading and responsible one, and as evidence of their great practical skill, they show side by side, dressers made of mahogany, and of curly birch in mahogany finish, and defy the most expert dealer to detect any difference in the woods.

Some exquisite dressers are shown, finished in ivory enamel, with brass mountings to harmonize with brass beds. Their exhibit, as a whole, proves that they possess not only a complete acquaintance with the technicalities of the furniture trade, but an ambition to be foremost in point of style and finish.

## THE GOULD-MERSEREAU CO.

THE GOULD-MERSEREAU COMPANY are certainly pioneers in the manufacture of brass bedsteads, their newest patterns being radical departures from the old style gridiron work that is frequently observed in the designs of such beds. The new patterns are rich and elegant, and as combinations of grace and strength are unsurpassed. When one considers the extraordinary beauty of art metal work outside of brass bedsteads, it is a matter of surprise that similarly beautiful effects have not been attempted in these choice furnishings. Art metal work has by no means said its last word in the matter of brass bedsteads, and the efforts of the Gould-Merseureau Company in this direction are certain to receive the hearty commendation of the trade. A particularly handsome design is a bed having a balcony railing footboard. Other designs take the form of quaint scroll work, the material lending itself to the most exquisite curves. Nothing can be more elegant as articles of furniture, and it is needless to say that they are finished and lacquered in the best manner.

A novelty in the way of a bed intended for the Southern trade is a bed with canopy attachment, supporting a mosquito netting that entirely envelops the bed. The arrangement allows the canopy to slide to either end of the bed, and the entire arrangement is one that is sure to be appreciated wherever mosquitoes abound.

The exhibit of the firm is beautifully reinforced with a line of furniture with brass mountings, finished in harmony with the bedsteads. There are supports for mirrors, heavy cast feet and other trimmings, and pieces such as shaving stands, etc., are presented in their display.

## THE PENN IRON ROOFING AND CORRUGATING COMPANY (LTD.), PHILADELPHIA, PA.

AS manufacturers of art metal products for the decoration of buildings, the productions of the above firm enjoy a well deserved popularity. They are the sole manufacturers of Sagendorph's patent embossed, plain and double reeded steel sectional ceilings and side wall decorations, of almost universal use in the decoration of churches, halls, hospi-

als, asylums, schools, theatres, stores and dwellings of all classes. The material, whether of steel, zinc, copper, brass or aluminum, takes the form of stamped plates or panels, mouldings, centres, etc., in either deep, medium or shallow relief. The designs vary with the nature of the work in hand, some of the plates being adapted to church decoration, while others are intended for stores, schools and so forth. A ceiling or wall design in any given style, with its centre panels, mouldings, borders, corner decorations, rosettes, cornice, etc., present an extremely rich combination of the most durable materials, and rich decoration properly applied, tinted and varnished is made for all time, for nothing save the destruction of the building can damage this kind of work.

The diversity of such decoration is so great that no one not actually acquainted with the varied resources of modern art applied to sheets of metal can form any idea of its manifold impressions. For example, the metal under skillful manipulation can assume the forms of art tiles, wall paper, plastic relief, carved wood, illuminated leather, natural rock, etc., generally in the form of deeply moulded plates.

Any good mechanic can apply the work to any kind of building, and full directions are given as to selecting materials and how to prepare foundations and practically apply these art plates in the handsome illustrated catalogue published by the firm, containing illustrations of the various designs produced, as well as interiors decorated by this process. Copies of the catalogue can be obtained by addressing the firm.

## GEORGE HALBERT.

MR. GEORGE HALBERT, decorator and manufacturer of French appliqué relief, has with the beginning of January, 1894, opened a new store at 435 Fulton street, Brooklyn, a region of the city containing many striking and attractive places of business, it being the principal shopping district in the city. The exterior of the store arrests attention by reason of its very artistic arrangement. The woodwork of the exterior is finished in cream and gold, and through the immense plate glass windows are to be seen a selection of the finest wall-papers, silk brocades, samples of grille work and decorative mantel-pieces. At night the window is illuminated with three enormous moonlights, whose combined illumination renders the store window so vivid as to arrest the attention of every passer by.

The expectations aroused by the exterior of the store are more than fulfilled by a visit to the interior. Here the wall trimmings of the magnificent showrooms as well as shelves and cabinets are in polished oak. One side of the wall is entirely devoted to a panelling of exquisite designs in parquet and mosaic floorings, affording an unusual opportunity to decide upon selections of the wood carpets, a branch of his business that Mr. Halbert has conducted with great success, having devoted special attention to improving this class of decorative work.

The lighting of the store is extremely unique. Concealed behind the frieze or cornice of oak, in Louis XVI. style, which extends around three sides of the room, are ninety-five incandescent electric lights. The radiation of so much light upon the pale tan ceiling, decorated with appliqué relief, of Mr. Halbert's own manufacture, is extremely charming. The soft light, here diffused without a shadow, resembles the yellow dawn of an Eastern morn, the dainty traceries on the field of the ceiling being exhibited with the finest effect.

In the rear of the main portion of the store are two exquisitely fitted rooms fully furnished, which contain samples of art furniture, draperies, interior decorations, stained glass, mantel-pieces, architectural woodwork, etc., handled by Mr. Halbert in his decorative business.

Mr. Halbert first established his business in Brooklyn in 1870, and quickly became prominent in



## THE DECORATOR AND FURNISHER.

the trade, bringing to bear the experience acquired during connection therewith from boyhood coupled with ample resources from connections both at home and abroad. Possessed of skill and judgment, he has exhibited a laudable ambition to excel, and now manages what is recognized as the finest decorative business in the city of Brooklyn. A great advantage secured by patronizing this house is that it will make all the furniture for a mansion, fit up its interior woodwork and decorate it all upon a complete conception of what is needed to secure harmony in style.

Mr. Halbert has a branch store at 7 Rue St. Cecil, Paris, and the latest novelties in draperies and general furnishings are displayed by Mr. Halbert as soon as they make their appearance on the foreign market. Halbert's French Applique Relief, which he began to manufacture about two years ago, has met with the most encouraging success from decorators all over the country, and the orders at present in hand are beyond the capacity of his factory to execute. In connection with this relief, Mr. Halbert has issued a handsome catalogue, in which a great number of fine designs for friezes and ceilings are shown in photographic plates. A copy of the catalogue is mailed to decorators on application. The firm of George Halbert has for members Messrs. George and William Halbert.

### A. BURGER.

A. BURGER, 32 Clinton Place, New York, has had twenty years experience in the manufacture of reflectors for the illumination of pictures. In many of the private galleries of the city his work adds to the effectiveness of the old and modern masters.

### THE LATE CARL A. ASP, JR.

CARL A. ASP, JR., for many years connected with prominent houses in Chicago and other cities in the upholstery and drapery business.—among them his uncle's store (De Zouche & Co.), Philadelphia—died suddenly in Chicago, December 13th, from a stroke of paralysis, in his thirty-first year. Mr. Asp was in full health on Sunday, December 10th, but toward evening complained of feeling ill. When a physician was called in he found Mr. Asp's left side paralyzed. He was only conscious for a short time. Mr. Asp's father, Carl A. Asp, of this city, who is well-known in the silk trade, was telegraphed for. He went to his son at once, and found him slowly sinking. Mr. Asp had his son's remains embalmed and taken to New York to be buried by the side of his mother. Two sisters and a brother, who now survive him, reside with their father. Mr. Asp had a wide circle of friends, who feel his loss keenly.

### THE CRYSTAL MAZE.

ONE of the most interesting and amusing lessons in optics and reflections is to be found in the CRYSTAL MAZE, at Broadway and Thirty-eighth street.

By a scientific arrangement of mirrors placed at angles calculated to the fraction of an inch, effects in reflection are produced which would have been deemed impossible. One reflection is again reflected, and so on to infinitum until like specters the lost image disappears in the midst of the distance.

In one instance a person sees himself approaching himself from every point of the compass, all the images conveying to a common centre. Then again without a guide the observer will find himself in a CUL-DE-SAC of mirrors, from which there seems no possible escape and he will be as completely lost as if he were in the Dismal Swamp.

It is a clean, beautiful and interesting exhibition and rapidly developing into a fad.

### CARE AND PROTECTION OF ROOFS.

ABOUT a year ago the Joseph Dixon Crucible Co., of Jersey City, issued a pamphlet on lubricating graphite. It embodied an elaborate scientific opinion by Prof. R. H. Thurston on the value of graphite as a lubricant, and much interesting information on the subject from practical men. The pamphlet has had a large circulation, and the company has been enabled to obtain from well-known men a vast amount of additional knowledge on the uses of graphite. Another pamphlet, twice the size of the former, will be issued early in February, and a copy will be sent free of charge to all interested in the subject of friction and lubrication.

### LITERARY NOTES.

THE second edition of the December World's Fair COSMOPOLITAN brings the total up to the extraordinary figure of 400,000 copies, an unprecedented result in the history of magazines. Four hundred thousand copies—200 tons—ninety-four million pages—enough to fill 200 wagons with 2000 pounds each—in a single line, in close order, this would be a file of wagons more than a mile and a half long. This means not less than 2,000,000 readers, scattered throughout every town and village in the United States. The cost of THE COSMOPOLITAN for the past twelve months may be compared to that of a rolling snowball; more subscribers mean more money spent in buying the best articles and best illustrations in the world; better illustrations and better articles mean more subscribers, and so

the two things are acting and reacting upon each other until it seems probable that the day is not far distant when the magazine publisher will be able to give so excellent an article that it will claim the attention of every intelligent reader in the country.

THE advertising poster is fast becoming a work of art. In Paris the colored cartoons of M. Jules Chéret, proclaiming the virtues of hair restoratives and the graces of concert-hall singers, are eagerly sought by collectors, rare sorts bringing prices varying from twenty-five to one hundred francs. The mania for collecting show-bills has reached this country, and Harper & Brothers are said to have received so many requests for the series of monthly colored posters of HARPER'S MAGAZINE that no more sets are obtainable.

### DECORATIVE DOINGS.

THE parlor is not only the pride of the house, but the measure of the family culture and it should be the abode of refinement. To achieve this in a small home, one should buy cautiously and slowly, and always such articles as are thoroughly substantial and not flashy, letting the designs be as graceful and decorative as possible. The aim should be to have the large furnishings express quietness, leaving the dashes of brightness and oddity to be supplied by the small articles.

IF the dining-room and parlor are all in one there probably will not be any sideboard beyond a corner shelf of a retreating disposition which will serve to hold the dessert for an hour or so. But if there is a genuine dining-room its would-be furnisher will like the unassuming and well-built sideboard shown herewith, now to be had to match almost any of the building woods, and which can be decorated by hand carving or pokerwork. Sometimes a series of shelves are set about the room intended to serve both as dining-room and library—shelves ready for books or dinner plates, indiscriminately. But as a rule the notable housewife much prefers the conventional sideboard with its drawers for spoons and its cupboard for decanters and glasses.

Upstairs in the bedrooms the arrangements may be of the most Spartan simplicity. People are not, as a rule, apt to spend much time in their bedrooms when out of bed.

A cheery and pleasant look is easy to get, with dotted muslin draperies at the windows and about the enameled beds or low cots. The little tiled washstands of the day are the cleanest and prettiest of such affairs, and the old chairs which are not thought good enough for longer use downstairs can be given a home-done coat of enamel paint which will make them presentable.

## BOOKS

—FOR—

## Architects, Artists, Designers and Decorators.

The following Books will be sent, postage paid, on receipt of price. Address,

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